

## NEWSY LETTER FROM PROMINENT COLFAX COUNTY MAN

### Judge Booth Writes Interestingly From His Winter Home in Elmhurst, California

Elmhurst, Calif., Jan. 24, 1907.

On my return here from a two and a half month's sojourn in the lower or southern part of the state I found waiting me Vol. 1, No. 1 of the Cimarron News and Press, dated at Cimarron, compliments of the Raton Range. Now this was a new one on me, the idea of a paper being published in Cimarron.

I spread it out and compared it with the Chronicle, same size and all pages filled with reading matter, of course I was curious to know what any one could write about Cimarron that would interest a reader. I sat down and devoted an hour's time reading the different articles written on different subjects. After sitting awhile my mind wandered back to old Cimarron, as it was only about eighteen months ago, I said to myself, "Things do move when I am away," and wondered that if I had been there, would such great movements have been made. I shall not be fully convinced of this great improvement until I have seen them, and all caused by a railroad being built opening up to the public a country full of resources for the investor. I believe that you have not over estimated them. Now I am not going to say I knew it or that I told you so, for I did not know it and I never told you so. No one can anticipate the outcome of the opening up of a new country but when it has been opened up you wonder why these things have lain dormant so long.

Colfax county is surely the coming county of New Mexico. The coal alone will put it at the head.

I received a letter from a friend living in Raton giving me a list of the different improvements that had been and are being made there, widening up by saying that I would need a guide to get around so as to avoid coming in contact with the pitfalls that appear where great improvements are being made.

I received a few days ago a draft on the Bank of Prosperity and it read as follows: "Pay to the order of S. E. Booth, \$65 days of health, wealth and happiness." Now I am going to present that draft for payment and hope it will be honored and not returned written across the face with red ink, "No funds," but if it is honored I will go to Raton, take the cars, and with a guide look over this great country you have so fully described in the Cimarron News and Press. The naming of this new publication was quite a difficult thing to do as so many names were suggested. I think the name is all right as we soon get accustomed to a name and then it is easy. The great struggle is from now on to keep the readers satisfied with the news and the different articles written, they will have to rustle to fill up the columns with readable matter and I hope it will succeed beyond their anticipation.

I see that Joe Brackett has written something about good roads and how they could be had. I have looked over the good road proposition and the only way you can have good roads is to tax the property enough to make good roads and when you have good roads, tax the property enough to keep them good. This is the only way I can see that good roads can be had and maintained. You must not expect any one to do something for nothing if you do you get left.

I see that Gene Twitty signs his name as county clerk and I think it is well that he has had some experience as assistant clerk and with his right hand bower, John Joerns, the office should be run in ship shape. I have heard Gene called the little giant and I could never understand where he got it. Now he is not large, as I remember him. He may be endowed by some unseen gigantic power that has developed, any way he is giant enough to run the office of county recorder with the assistance of his able right bower. If not I have heard it remarked they are a good pair to draw to, if any one knows what that means. No I think Colfax county will not suffer and when I return to Raton I can go to the county clerk's office, ask if I had mortgaged any man's property to raise money for myself, I could get an answer promptly. I do not think I over estimate his ability.

Now in closing I want to relate an incident that happened here in my little bungalow. I was sitting in a rocker nursing my right foot when a lady called introducing herself as a representative of the New Woman. Of course I was interested and for the moment the pain in my foot was forgotten but when I got a good look

at her and saw that she was at least forty that settled it with me as far as the new woman was concerned for I knew a woman forty years old was no new woman. She kindly asked what was the matter and I informed her that I had rheumatism in my foot and that it was very painful but she told me that she did not believe I had any pain in my foot but that I only thought so. I looked at her thinking some innuendo had escaped but the smile she gave me upset that idea at once for it was a smile that any one thinking they were right would smile. Then she pointed to my foot asking me to put my hand where the pain was. I did so. She said there was no pain there, she knew there was not. I remarked that she knew nothing about it. She said that it was all in my head and all I had to do was to think that there was no pain and I would have none. I became a little excited and moved rather quickly which set my heel throbbing with pain and she said, "Don't think about it." The idea not to think about it, why my thoughts flew back to the time I spoke the dead language before I knew how to talk at all and how quickly the profane language came to me. Don't think it pains you, she said. That same smile appearing, I hobbled to the door, opened it and in leaving I told her that I would try and not think of the pain in my heel if she would go. And so she went, leaving a small book telling all about it. I do not want any more new women to call on me. I would bet four cents, if I had it, that if she had rheumatism in her heel as I did and some new man should call and tell her there was no pain in her heel and that she only thought so, she would call a policeman and have him arrested. Oh but that self-possession smile that she smiled was enough to drive away pain from the ordinary man.

I will now close this long epistle hoping a long life to the Cimarron News and Press and through its publication the population will increase many fold in Colfax county.

At this place,  
S. E. BOOTH.

#### A BOOSTER WHO BOOSTS.

Mr. E. J. Belton, the genial agent for the "Swastika" route at this place daily receives many letters of enquiry relative to this section of New Mexico, and especially of Cimarron and the surrounding country. Mr. Belton is from the black mud country of Illinois, where the thermometer registers down around zero for six months in the year and the rains during the other six months make the mud something like fourteen feet deep. He takes to our genial climate and proverbial soil like a duck to water. In fact, he is in his element. The following from the Peoria Star, published at his old home town, is self-explanatory:

"John Dugan has received a letter from E. J. Belton, a well known former railroad man of this city. Mr. Belton is now located at Cimarron, New Mexico, where he is agent for the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific, a new line recently constructed. Mr. Belton says that he is located in the greatest country on earth, where farming is conducted all the year round under pleasant conditions. Just now the farmers are threshing their Russian oats.

Cimarron is a town about one-tenth the size of Pekin, yet Mr. Belton says that his station does a business of over \$8,000 per month. Mr. and Mrs. Belton were well known in Pekin during their residence here.

"Mr. Belton was for several years agent of the Illinois Valley Belt line, the sugar works road, when the Pekin and Peoria houses of the trust were turning out their harvest output. He later worked for the Santa Fe and while with that company went to grow up with the country. He is well pleased with his location and is doing well."

The citizens of Cimarron like Mr. Belton and Mr. Belton likes the people of Cimarron. He insists that he has the best agent for the best route in New Mexico, and the citizens of Cimarron think they have one of the most accommodating and courteous agents in all the great west.

The Alamogordo News and the Cloudcroft Silver Lining have a war on and have reached the "cap" stage where whole lines of rebuttal are set in capitals signed with Hezekiah Hoppledorffer. This sort of journalism is surely "on the road to yesterday."

#### THE GREEN-GOGGLED MAN.

A special from Raton to the Denver News of last Sunday contains the following, which will no doubt be interesting to Cimarron citizens. The item says:

"This city is to be headquarters for another railroad. Incorporation papers have been filed for the Cimarron & Northwestern railway.

The new road will connect with the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific railway at Cimarron, forty-seven miles from Raton, and will build from that point northwest to Van Bremmer Park, a distance of thirty-six miles. The country to be traversed by this road is one of the finest in the territory, and is rich in timber and minerals.

The company is incorporated for \$350,000, and \$36,000 of this has already been paid in. The office of the company will be in Raton.

The incorporators are C. N. Blackwell, William H. Decker and Albert A. Miller. This will give Raton four railroads—the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific, Santa Fe, Raton & Eastern, Cimarron & Northwestern and Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe."

The correspondent to the News evidently wears green goggles. Raton will not be headquarters for the new road, neither does the building of the road give Raton four railroads. The nearest point to Raton will be Cimarron, which, as the correspondent states, is forty-seven miles from Raton. The trouble with the man with green goggles appears to be that he seems to be of the opinion that Raton spreads all over Colfax county, when as a matter of fact it only constitutes a very small portion of the county—uncomparably small when one considers the brains, muscle and capital that is developing its resources. The green-goggled man should go to some lower altitude and take the rest cure.

#### The Ten Commandments Revised.

The ten commandments are revised to fit the mail order catalogue house plan: First—You shall sell your farm products for cash whenever you can, but not to us; we do not buy from us; we do not buy from you. Second—

You shall believe our statements and buy all you need from us because we want to be good to you although we are not personally acquainted with you. Third—You shall send the money in advance to give us the chance to get the goods from the factory with your money; meanwhile you will have to wait patiently a few weeks because that is our business method. Fourth—You shall apply to your nearest city to aid you in building good roads so you may conveniently get the goods from the depot which you buy from us, for we do not build country roads. Fifth—You shall buy church bells and interior fixtures from us and forward the money in advance, for this is our business method and you shall collect from the business men in your vicinity as much money as you can for the benefit of your church. Although we get more money from you than they do, still it is against our rules to donate money for building country churches. Sixth—

You shall buy your tools from us and be your own mechanic in order to drive the mechanic from your vicinity for we wish it so. Seventh—You shall induce your neighbor to buy everything from us, as we have room for the money—the less money there is left in your community, the sooner we can put your local merchant out of business and charge you any price we please. Eighth—You shall look often at the beautiful pictures in our catalogues, so your wishes will increase, and you will send in a big order, although you are not in immediate need of the goods, otherwise you might have some money left to buy necessary goods of your local merchants. Ninth—You shall have the merchants who repair the goods you buy from us book the bill so you can send the money for his labor to us for new goods, otherwise he will not notice our influence. Tenth—You shall in case of accident, sickness or need, apply to your local dealers for aid or credit, as we do not know you.

#### Spanish American Notes.

Geo. Crocker and Sim. Calley, two cattle men of Colfax county, were in the vicinity Thursday. They purchased twenty head of stock from Jim Brinnen.

The younger men of Springer have recently organized an athletic club, and have purchased considerable equipment. Douglas Wright has been elected president and manager.

W. F. Buchanan, president of the First National Bank of Tusumcari, N. M., stopped off at Roy on his return home from Trinidad Friday. He established a new bank at Narbais while on this trip and while here commenced negotiations for starting another at this point. Mr. Buchanan is very much interested in this section of the country and is sanguine that Ray has a good future before it.

A tiny mite of a Mexican lassie was

brought on board the north bound Santa Fe train last Monday evening at El Paso, and seated by two priests who had her in charge, for the trip to Albuquerque. She was given in charge of the conductor, and with tears streaming down the fat, little chubby cheeks, she protested that she didn't want to go. The big black eyes were swimming with tears, and one sticky little hand clutched tightly a piece of candy, while with the other she clung to the kind father who was endeavoring to soothe her. As the train pulled out she sobbed mournfully, but soon the novelty of the occasion prevailed and the little thing sat up, dried her tears, and the eyes that had been filled with tears were soon round with wonderment and interest. Soon she was shyly making friends with a gentleman in front of her and informed him in her hisping, childish Spanish that she was going to Albuquerque to learn to be an American girl. By and by, as she grew tired, she curled cosily up in the seat the conductor let down for her, and when the train reached Las Cruces, the long eye-lashes had drooped and the Sandman had claimed the big black eyes; and her little brown face pillowed on a chubby little hand, she had forgotten that she was alone, forgotten all her childish grief and was happily dreaming of the time when she would become an American girl.—Rio Grande Republican.

#### TIES THAT BIND ARE UNLOOSENED

The following seven decrees of divorce have been granted by Chief Justice W. J. Mills in Las Vegas:

Emma Mares from Robert Mares. The couple were married in Raton on December 26, 1903. The fruits of the union are two little sons, who are given into the custody of the mother.

Evelyn Shank from John Shank of Cimarron, N. M. The three-year-old child, Margaret Chance Shank, will remain with the mother, who is given the household goods and alimony of \$12.50 per month. The husband is a resident of Baldwin, Kas.

Ramonita Fernandez from Romaldo Fernandez. The twain were made one at Watrous in January, 1904. Her maiden name was Ramonita Martinez.

George Strohm from Mariana Strohm, nee Gallegos. They were married in Colfax county in 1892.—Las Vegas Optic.

#### SUCCESS.

Success is planting a new crop of corn the next morning after the first had been cut by the frost of spring-time.

Success is putting up the fence thrown down by the wind of last night before the stock has done damage to the growing crops.

Success is planting a new tree in the place of the one destroyed by the tempest of yesterday.

Success is beginning the construction of a new house while yet the ashes of the old one are smoldering.

Success is getting up after one has fallen.

Success is pushing the battle sharply even though the bugle has sounded the retreat.

Success is not knowing when one is defeated.

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RATON, N. M.

Success is bracing up the shattered mast and patching the torn sails and keeping on toward the harbor. Success is searching the battlefield after the first repulse and gathering up the weary stragglers and the unspent ammunition and wresting victory out of the very teeth of defeat.

Success is ever to be found close to the line which divides loss from gain. Sitting down on the wrong side of the line makes men failures. Bravely looking over to the other side and bending the last remnant of strength to get there changes the word failure into success.—Spare Moments.

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